



Sacred Heart
Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn Term 2021
Beside the Seaside

Welcome back!

In this termly newsletter, there will be: important class information, an outline of the topics we are covering this term and details concerning school routines.

Class Information

- Miss Rachel McClenaghan is the Year 2 class teacher.
- She is supported by three teaching and learning assistants: Mrs Sarah Boyle, Mrs Lisa Stenning and Mrs Grace Perrott.
- Mrs Boyle is in class on Tuesday morning, Wednesday morning, Thursday afternoon and Friday morning.
- Mrs Stenning is in class on Monday afternoon, Tuesday afternoon, Thursday morning and Friday afternoon.
- Mrs Perrott is in class all day Monday and Wednesday.
- On Wednesday afternoons, the children will have a Music lesson with Mrs Fogg; a French lesson with Mrs Coney and a PSHE lesson with Mrs Dell'Anno.
- On Friday afternoons, the children will have a Computing lesson with Junior Jam.
- The start of the day is a busy time preparing for lessons so we ask that appointments be made for a convenient time after school. We will try to respond to emails received within 48 hrs. If urgent please notify the office. Miss McClenaghan's email address is rmcclenaghan@sacredheart.richmond.sch.uk.

Covid-19 Routines and Practices

The school holds a Risk Assessment detailing all the measures currently in place in school. Rest assured every precaution is being taken to ensure that children are learning in a safe environment.

- Tables continue to be disinfected at the end of every session and children are washing/sanitising their hands at the beginning and end of every lesson.
- Children are all sat at forward-facing tables with regular movements breaks.
- Any activities are done within the KS1 bubble and the children are not mixing with other year groups.
- Assemblies are still being held remotely
- Ventilation of the classrooms is still a priority.

School Routines and Equipment

Children are expected to be in school between 8:45am and 9:00am and collected at 3:10pm. They are dropped off at and picked up from the Main School Entrance.

Children should bring their book bag to school every day with their Reading Record and reading books. Every child should have a water bottle (and a packed lunch if they have one). Your child will need to bring a coat in as the weather becomes cooler.

The children have PE every **Tuesday and Thursday** and should come to school wearing their PE kit. Their indoor PE kit consists of a Sacred Heart Maroon T-shirt, navy blue school shorts or skort, white socks and trainers. They should also have the outdoor PE kit. All PE will be outdoors for at least the first half term so the children should always wear trainers.

All children are encouraged to bring water bottles. Fruit is provided as a healthy snack at break time. If your child brings their own snack, it should either be a piece of fruit or a fruit bar (no nuts/chocolate/crisps).

Children should not be wearing jewellery and long hair should always be tied back. Please ensure all clothing and belongings are still named.

Routines have been set regarding handwashing, sanitising and cleaning off equipment and tables etc... The children have been fantastic with these and we appreciate your support with this.

Home Learning

English and Maths Home Learning

Children will receive English and Maths home learning every week. They will also get occasional Home Learning linked to RE or Learning Themes.

Home Learning information will be included in my weekly email and most resources will be sent home in Home Learning Folders.

Every child has a Google Classroom account that may be used for communicating about Home Learning. Information and resources may be posted on Google Classroom and children should log onto their accounts, if requested. With your help, children can communicate with me on Google Classroom if there are any questions.

Home Learning will be assigned on a Friday and should be handed in by the following Wednesday.

If you have any problems with accessing your child's Google Classroom account, please email me.

Spellings

Children will receive a weekly list of spellings words as well as related activities to help practise the pattern. Spellings will be given out on a Friday and should be returned by the following Wednesday.

Mental Maths

In order to develop our rapid recall of number bonds and times tables, the children will also have a 'Learn Its' worksheet. Your child has 60 seconds to answer as many number sentences as they can.

Reading

Now, more than ever, it is very important to hear your child read in Year 2. They should read for at least 10 minutes each evening. If your child has read, please update and sign their Reading Record book. We should be encouraging the children to sound out and blend any unfamiliar words and check that they fully comprehend what they are reading.

We are currently updating our reading scheme selection so that the children can have more independence and responsibility over their reading. Please bear with us as we finalise this system.

We are also in the process of re-opening our library system. Until then, the children will take a book from the Year 2 book corner home on a Friday to encourage reading for pleasure over the weekend. These books should be returned on Monday.

Curriculum

Our curriculum theme this term is Beside the Seaside. Where possible, learning will be linked to the seaside to contextualise our learning to encourage a deeper understanding and a real love of learning.

Catch-up Curriculum

As a school, our aim is to ensure that our pupils have a broad and balanced education, while ensuring that they catch-up on the fundamental skills in English and Mathematics missed during any disruption to learning over the last two years.

English, and in particular reading, underpins our understanding of everything we are asked to learn within school. If we cannot understand the information that is being presented to us, either orally or in written form, we cannot hope to move forward with completing the tasks/learning challenges being set.

As we move through this first part of the Autumn Term, the curriculum will be heavily focused on getting the basics right. We will focus on reading and the skills for reading and comprehension, as well as, the basics for writing – Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation – these are non-negotiables for each year group and build systematically across the school. Through our GSP focus, we will look to enthuse the children with a love of language which they will be encouraged to transfer into their writing.

With Mathematics, we will continue to follow the White Rose curriculum, as this has been found to be systematic and effective in building pupils' understanding. As a support to schools, White Rose have provided a recovery plan for each year group which we will be using to ensure that any gaps in learning are addressed.

English

Using class texts as a stimulus, the children will practice writing for many different purposes including: descriptive writing, explanation texts, persuasive writing and recounting a narrative. The children will also learn how to develop the quality of their writing using a range of skills including:

- Revising Y1 learning such as: capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.
- Using a range of correct punctuation to demarcate different sentences.
- Using conjunctions like 'and', 'or' and 'but' to join sentences.
- Using nouns, verbs, adjectives and noun phrases confidently.
- Spelling Y1/2 common exception words correctly.
- Using the present and past tense consistently.
- Writing in a cursive style, forming letters correctly.
- Proofreading and correcting writing.

Maths

We are incorporating the Maths Mastery philosophy into our teaching of Mathematics. The basis of this is that every child should enjoy and succeed in Maths. By using accessible activities that promote number fluency and consolidating understanding with reasoning and problem-solving activities, knowledge of Maths is contextualised and rich rather than instrumental.

Number and Place Value:

- Recognise the place value of each digit in a 2-digit number.
- Compare and order numbers 0 to 100 using > < = signs.
- Read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals and words.

Addition and Subtraction:

- Solve addition and subtraction problems using concrete objects and pictorial representations.
- Recall addition and subtraction facts up to 20 and relate these to related facts up to 100.
- Add and subtract numbers using a variety of strategies.
- Show understanding that addition is commutative and that addition and subtraction have an inverse relationship.

Multiplication and Division:

- Recall multiplication facts for the 2, 5, and 10 times table.
- Recognise odd and even numbers.
- Show understanding of multiplication through repeated addition.
- Show understanding that multiplication is commutative but division is not.

Religious Education

The children will be following the 'Come and See' religious scheme of work. During our lessons, children will explore each theme through a combination of discussion, written work, reflection and prayer. Over the Autumn Term the children will cover three topics.

The Domestic Church – Family: Beginnings

The children will consider and discuss what new beginnings are and what it is like to have a new beginning. We will use the Bible to discover more about the story of Creation as a way of explaining how God created the earth and everything in it. We will explore how God is present at all beginnings and how he loves us.

Baptism – Belonging: Signs and Symbols

We will discuss what signs and symbols are and how they are used within the Sacrament of Baptism. Using scripture and other religious sources, the children will consider the meaning behind a range symbols used during the Baptism ceremony.

Advent/Christmas – Loving: Preparations

During Advent when we are preparing to celebrate Christmas, we will talk about our own experiences and feelings when we are preparing for special occasions. The children will retell the stories of the Annunciation, the Visitation and Nativity and we will discuss and explore the signs and symbols connected with the liturgical season of Advent.

Science

Our topic for the Autumn Term will be Living Things and their Habitats.

The children will study a range of habitats to identify what living things live there and how they are suited to their environments. We will also consider what makes something living and use this knowledge to compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive.

We will explore and consolidate these concepts using a range of scientific skills including: classification, scientific research, comparative observation, making predictions and simple fair testing. Children will further demonstrate their understanding, using the appropriate scientific terminology.

The children are also encouraged to be curious, inquisitive and to ask questions. We will reflect on how our answers to scientific enquiries can have different answers.

Learning Themes

Geography

This half term, the children will study the human and physical geography of the seaside in the United Kingdom, using appropriate geographical vocabulary correctly. They will use maps and other geographical sources to locate seaside destinations; identify seasonal weather patterns and consider actions to reduce seaside pollution and maltreatment.

History

After half term, the children will develop an awareness of the past through the context of how the seaside has changed over the last 100 years. The children will explore chronology and the passing of time. We will also discuss the continuities and changes that have occurred since the Victorians started visiting the seaside.

Art

The children will explore the artistic elements of line, shape and colour this term. We will study these concepts through the artistic styles of Piet Mondrian and Drew Brophy.

Computing

This term, we will develop our digital literacy by looking at how computers work. Children will become familiar with the different parts of a computer and how to use each of them so that they can begin to use computers safely and independently.

Children will also be visited by Junior Jam every week. They will experience computing games and applications using the school iPads.

Design and Technology

The children will partake in projects where they design, make and evaluate purposeful, functional products. Over the course of this term, we will make hand puppets, bake and create Christmas crafts using a range of technical skills including cutting, shaping, joining and sewing.

Music

Mrs Fogg is the specialist Music Teacher. She teaches the children during weekly Music lessons. This term, the children will explore core concepts of Music with beat and rhythm using simple rhymes and songs to demonstrate.

PSCHE

Zones

In addition to readjusting to our school rules and expectations, the children will recap and consolidate their knowledge and understanding of the Zones of Regulation. This will include: identifying our zones; developing self-regulating strategies; using clue to determine how others are feeling and reviewing expected and unexpected behaviours.

SRE

It is now a statutory requirement to include Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) lessons as part of the PSHE curriculum. After half term, we will explore more about how we are created and loved by God. Where possible, we will relate this learning to our RE and Science lessons too.

PE and Dance

Fundamentals

We start our PE curriculum by looking at the fundamentals. In these sessions, we will develop the fundamental skills of balancing, running, changing direction, jumping, hopping and skipping. Children will be given opportunities to work with a range of different equipment.

Ball Skills

Later in term, we will develop key ball skills such as throwing and catching, rolling, hitting a target, dribbling with both hands and feet and kicking a ball. Children will have the opportunity to work independently, in pairs and small groups.

Trips and Enrichment

The Government has advised that, in the autumn term, schools can resume non-overnight domestic educational visits. This includes any trips or placements connected with a pupil or student's preparation for adulthood (for example workplace visits, travel training, etc.).

At this time, a number of the planned educational visits have been cancelled by the providers as a result of their own risk assessments. In light of this, the school has taken the decision not to commence with educational visits until after the Autumn half term break and at this time, where trips are organised, these will be in line with protective measures, such as keeping children within their consistent group, and the coronavirus (COVID-19) secure measures in place at the destination.

The school is supported in its decision making around educational visits by an Educational Visits Adviser from our Health and Safety executive. The school makes use of this adviser to evaluate trips and the individual risk assessment for these trips.

Please be assured that as a school, we will do all we can to ensure your child receives as enriched a curriculum as feasible in the current climate.

ADDITIONAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 10th November and Thursday 12th November 4:00pm – 6:30pm – Parents Evenings

At this time the plan is for these to take place virtually.

Thursday 26th November at 9.30 am and 7:00pm – Sacred Heart Open Events

Thursday 10th December at 9.30 am – Christmas Nativity – Year 1 and 2

Monday 14th December at 7.00pm – Christmas Carol Concert - Juniors

The children have made a fantastic start to Year 2! They have adapted to new routines and expectations beautifully. Thank you so much for your continued support and understanding. I am really looking forward to a successful year working with your amazing children.

If you have any questions or any concerns regarding your child's well-being, please do not hesitate to contact me. As we are social distancing as much as possible at the start and end of each day, please email me rmcclenaghan@sacredheart.richmond.sch.uk.

Many thanks,
Miss Rachel McClenaghan